

Message Text

SECRET

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12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

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R 251530Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1409

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CINCLANT

USCINCEUR

USLO SACLANT

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T COPENHAGEN 2419

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, NL, DA

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REDUCTIONS IN NETHERLANDS ARMED FORCES

REF: STATE 198550

1. ON AUGUST 25 POLCOUNS MADE REPRESENTATION ON SUBJECT TO ACTING CHIEF OF MFA'S NATO OFFICE, J. ABRAHMASEN. POLCOUNS DREW ON ARGUMENTS IN REFTEL AS WELL AS IN COMPANION PIECES REPORTING DEMARCHES MADE BY EMBASSIES IN OTHER NATO CAPITALS. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THE DANES EXPLORE WITH THE DUTCH THE RELEVANCE TO THE LATTER OF A DEVICE LIKE THE DANISH DEFENSE AGREEMENT.(COMMENT: ADDRESSEES WILL RECALL THAT THIS AGREEMENT, BELIEVED TO BE UNIQUE AMONG NATO COUNTRIES,

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IS A MULTI-YEAR UNDERSTANDING AMONG PARTIES REPRESENTING A

PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY. IT HAS LARGELY REMOVED SECURITY QUESTIONS AND APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE POLITICAL ARENA AND PROVIDES INFLATION OFFSETS AND MODEST REAL ANNUAL INCREASES FOR MATERIAL EXPENDITURES.)

2. ABRAHAMESEN REPLIED THAT THE DANES VIEWED THE PROPOSED DUTCH REDUCTIONS "WITH CONCERN" AND THAT HE WOULD CONSULT WITH HIS PRINCIPLES TO DETERMINE HOW AND WHEN THE DANES WOULD EXPRESS THEIR CONCERN. ABRAHAMSEN OBSERVED THAT, LIKE THE BELGIANS, DUTCH REDUCTIONS WOULD CAUSE THE DANISH GOVERNMENT PROBLEMS IN ATTEMPTING TO NEGOTIATE REPLACEMENT OF THE EXISTING DEFENSE AGREEMENT. ALTHOUGH THE PRESENT AGREEMENT RUNS UNTIL 1977, THERE IS CONSIDERABLE PARLIAMENTARY OPINION THAT THE SOONER IT IS RENEWED, THE BETTER.
CROWE

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NNN

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